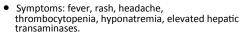
Rocky Mountain spotted fever (RMSF)





- Rapidly fatal if not treated within the first 5 days.
- Rash occurs in 80% of cases, but may occur late in illness. <u>Never</u> wait for a rash to begin treatment.
- RMSF is transmitted by the bite of an infected tick. However, only 60% of cases report history of tick bite.
- Serologic titers for RMSF are often negative in the first 7-10 days of illness, convalescent titers 2-4 weeks later are required for confirmation.



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Antibiotic therapy for suspected RMSF

Age category	Drug	Dosage
Adults and children ≥45 kg	Doxycycline	100 mg twice per day
Children <45 kg*	Doxycycline	2.2 mg/kg twice per day

In cases of pregnant women or persons with life-threatening tetracycline allergies, consult an infectious disease physician.

*The dose and duration of doxycycline used to treat suspected RMSF has <u>NOT</u> been shown to cause dental staining in children. This dose is recommended by the AAP and CDC to safely treat children of any age .

For more information please visit our website at www.cdc.gov/rmsf

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